UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
MEMORANDUM

August 6, 2004

To: Public Information (MS 5034)

From: Plan Coordinator, FO, Plans Section (MS 5231)

Subject: Public Information copy of plan

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Control # | - | N-08165 |
| Type | - | Initial Exploration Plan |
| Lease(s) | - | OCS-G22504 Block - 74 West Cameron Area<br>OCS-G22505 Block - 75 West Cameron Area<br>OCS-G24705 Block - 63 West Cameron Area |
| Operator | - | Chevron U.S.A. Inc. |
| Description | - | Well Protectors and Wells A and B |
| Rig Type | - | JACKUP |

Attached is a copy of the subject plan.

It has been deemed submitted as of this date and is under review for approval.

Michelle Griffitt
Plan Coordinator

| Site Type/Name | Botm Lse/Area/Blk | Surface Location | Surf Lse/Area/Blk |
|---|---|---|---|
| WP/A | | 4366 FNL, 4931 FWL | G22504/WC/74 |
| WP/B | | 4366 FNL, 4931 FWL | G22504/WC/74 |
| WELL/A | G22505/WC/75 | 4366 FNL, 4931 FWL | G22504/WC/74 |
| WELL/B | G24705/WC/63 | 4355 FNL, 4931 FWL | G22504/WC/74 |

ISS AUG 6'04AM10:56

N-8165

Chevron USA Inc.
Western Shelf Profit Center
5750 Johnston Street
P.O. Box 69100
Lafayette, LA 70596
Tel: (337) 989-3203
Fax: (337) 989-3211
Lfgr@Chevrontexaco.com

Linda F. Granger
Permit Specialist



ChevronTexaco

July 29, 2004

United States Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394



Attention: Regional Supervisor
Field Operations

**Initial Exploration Plan**
**West Cameron Block 74**
**OCS-G-22504 - Wells "A" & "B"**

Gentlemen:

To comply with the requirements of 30 CFR 250.203 to drill, complete and set protective structure for the subject wells, Chevron is submitting the following information for our Initial Exploration Plan:

a) Five (5) Proprietary copies of our Initial Exploration Plan.
b) Four (4) Public Information copies with confidential information withheld.

It is requested that the information contained in the Proprietary copies be kept confidential. If additional information is needed, please contact me at (337) 989-3203.

Sincerely,

Linda F. Granger

Linda F. Granger
Permit Specialist
Western Shelf Profit Center

Attachments

CONTROL No. N-8165
REVIEWER: Michaela Griffitt
PHONE: (504) 736-2975

# CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.

## INITIAL EXPLORATION PLAN

West Cameron Block 74
OCS-G-22504 – Wells "A" and "B"
July 29, 2004

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# SECTION A CONTENTS OF PLAN

(Lease Description/Activity, Objective, Schedule, Location, Drilling Unit)

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## LEASE DESCRIPTION

Lease OCS-G-22504, West Cameron Block 74 was awarded to Chevron U.S.A., Inc. at the Central Gulf of Mexico Lease Sale 178. The Lease was issued with an effective date of June 1, 2001 and a primary term ending date of May 31, 2006. Chevron is currently the designated operator.

Minerals Management Service approved Chevron U.S.A., Inc. Initial Exploration Plan (Control No. N-7987) to drill, complete and set protective structures for locations "A" through "D" in West Cameron Block 63, OCS-G-24705. In addition, an Initial Exploration Plan (Control No. N-8129) dated June 25, 2004 to drill, complete and set protective structures for locations "E" through "G" is currently awaiting approval.

## OBJECTIVE

Under this Initial Exploration Plan, Chevron proposes to drill, complete, T&A and install well protector structure for Wells "A" and "B" from a surface location in West Cameron Block 74 to bottom hole locations in West Cameron Block 75 and West Cameron Block 63, respectively.

Chevron proposes to install a temporary structure over the surface location of Wells "A" and "B" prior to the rig moving off. The primary function of the structures is to serve as a well protector for the proposed wells. A Drawing of the proposed structure is enclosed as **Attachment A-1.**

If exploratory drilling results in the discovery of commercial quantities of hydrocarbons, an Initial Development Operations Coordination Document will be submitted for your approval.

## SCHEDULE

The following schedule details the activities proposed under this Plan:

| Activity | Start Date | End Date | Total Days |
|---|---|---|---|
| Drill, Complete, T&A and set Protective Structure Well "A" | 09/01/2004 | 12/01/2004 | 92 days |
| Drill, Complete, T&A and set Protective Structure Well "B" | 03/01/2005 | 05/16/2005 | 77 days |

## LOCATION

A Location/Bathmetry Plat depicting the surface location(s) and water depth(s) of our proposed well(s), and any associated anchors is enclosed as **Attachment A-2.**

We have included as **Attachment A-3** Form MMS-137 "Plan Information Form" in accordance with **Appendix J.** The form includes a table indicating the surface location, bottom hole location, TVD, MD and water depth for each proposed well. Also included in the table is the distance from the lease lines, the Lambert x-y coordinates and the latitude and longitude.

This Plan does not propose the use of any associated anchors or permanent anchors during drilling, completion or construction operations; therefore, a discussion of anchor patterns is not included with our Initial Exploration Plan for the subject location.

## DRILLING UNIT

The subject well will be drilled and completed utilizing the High Island II Jack-up drilling rig. The drilling unit is designed to operate in water depths from fifteen feet (15') to two hundred fifty feet (250'). The rig has a drilling depth capacity of 20,000 feet. Copies of the appropriate specifications will be included with the Permit to Drill (APD), and submitted to the appropriate MMS District Office.

The rig is equipped with safety, fire fighting and lifesaving equipment required to comply with USCG and ABS requirements including two (2) 44-person motorized life boats, four (4) 25-person inflatable rafts, 92 individual life preservers, fire fighting equipment and general alarm system.

The rig has the necessary diverter system, blowout preventer, auxiliary equipment and mud testing and monitoring equipment. Drilling operations will be conducted in a manner so as to maximize pollution prevention in accordance with Title 30 CFR Part 250, Subpart C. All other safety control equipment will be used in accordance with the applicable subparts of Title 30 CFR Part 250.

# SECTION B GENERAL INFORMATION

(Contact, Project Name, New or Unusual Technology, Bonding Information, Onshore Base and Support Vessels, Lease Stipulations)

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## CONTACT

Linda F. Granger
Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
5750 Johnston Street, Room 3182
Lafayette, LA 70596
(337) 989-3203

Email: LFGranger@Chevrontexaco.com

## PROJECT NAME

There is no prospect name assigned to this project.

## NEW OR UNUSUAL TECHNOLOGY

This Plan does not propose the use of any new or unusual technologies.

## BONDING INFORMATION

In accordance with the regulations contained in Title 30 CFR 256, subpart 1 and further clarified in Notice to Lessees (NTL 2000-G16); Chevron has on file with the Minerals Management Service and is covered by a $3,000,000 area-wide bond 103312842-0012 effective October 18, 2001.

## ONSHORE BASE AND SUPPORT VESSELS

West Cameron Block 74 is approximately 12.39 miles south of the nearest shoreline, and approximately 68 miles from our Intracoastal City base located in Intracoastal City, LA. A vicinity plat showing the location of West Cameron Block 74 relative to the shoreline and the onshore base is included as **Attachment B-1**.

The Intracoastal City Shorebase will serve as port of debarkation for supplies and crews. No onshore expansion or construction is anticipated with respect to the proposed activities. This base is capable of providing the services necessary for the proposed activities. It has 24-hour service, a radio tower with a phone patch, dock space, equipment and supply storage base, drinking and drill water, etc.

Helicopters will travel to and from this location and Chevron's Intracoastal City Base and other platforms in the area. Travel frequencies of helicopters and support vessels during drilling and completion operations are listed below.

| | Drilling | Construction | Production |
|---|---|---|---|
| Crewboat | 1/week | 1/day | N/A |
| Workboat | 3/week | 1/day | N/A |
| Helicopters | 2/day | N/A | N/A |

## LEASE STIPULATIONS

Lease stipulations are developed before the lease sale and attached to the lease in the form of mitigating measures. The Minerals Management Service is responsible for ensuring full compliance with stipulations.

There are no lease stipulations appended to Lease OCS-G-22504 that will affect the proposed activities associated with this Plan. Chevron shall utilize the best available and safest technologies throughout the project. Chevron will comply with all applicable Federal, State and local requirements regarding air emissions, water quality and discharge for the proposed activities, as well as any other permit conditions.

## SECTION C GEOLOGICAL & GEOPHYSICAL

(Structure Maps, Interpreted Seismic Lines, Cross-Sections, Shallow Hazards Report, Shallow Hazards Assessment, High Resolution Seismic Lines, Stratigraphic Columns, Time vs. Depth Tables, $H_2S$ )

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### STRUCTURE MAPS

Current structure maps contoured for the lease block and drawn to the top of each prospective hydrocarbon accumulation showing the entire lease block and the surface and bottom hole location of each proposed well is included as **Attachment C-1.**

### INTERPRETED SEISMIC LINES

Included as **Attachment C-2** to this Plan (one proprietary copy) is a page size copy of the migrated and annotated (shot points, time lines, well paths) seismic lines within 500' of each proposed surface location.

### CROSS-SECTION MAPS

Interpreted geological structure Cross-Section Map showing the location and depth of each proposed well, and at least one key horizon with the objective sands labeled using standard biostratigraphic terms is included in this section as **Attachment C-3**

### SHALLOW HAZARDS REPORT

Chevron contracted Tesla Offshore, LLC to provide a Shallow Hazard Analysis in accordance with NTL 98-20.

A high-resolution geophysical survey was conducted during July 2004 along a 50-meter primary grid spacing with 900 meter tie lines. The purpose of the survey was to evaluate geologic conditions and inspect for potential hazards or constraints to lease development.

Three copies of this report were submitted to the Minerals Management Service on July 19, 2004.

## SHALLOW HAZARDS ASSESSMENT

A shallow hazard assessment has been prepared based on the original data by Robert J. Floyd, Marine Archaeologist for the proposed surface location. The report evaluates seafloor and subsurface geological and manmade features and conditions. A copy of the assessment is included with this Plan as **Attachment C-4.**

## HIGH RESOLUTION SEISMIC LINES

Included with this Plan, as **Attachment C-5**, is one proprietary copy of an annotated high resolution survey line closest to each of the proposed well locations.

## STRATIGRAPHIC COLUMN

A generalized biostratigraphic/lithostratigraphic column from the seafloor to the total depth of each proposed location is included as **Attachment C-6.**

## TIME Vs DEPTH TABLES

Appropriate tables providing seismic travel time versus depth for the proposed well location showing intervals of not more than 10 milliseconds are included as **Attachment C-7.**

## HYDROGEN SULFIDE ($H_2S$)

In accordance with 30 CFR 250.417 (c) , Chevron request that West Cameron Block 74 be classified by the Regional Supervisor as $H_2S$ absent, $H_2S$ present or $H_2S$ unknown.

Newfield WC 77 well (currently drilling) is going to 18000' TVD (should TD later this month) not sure if this well will encounter H2S greater than MMS's ppm H2S threshold.

## SECTION D BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

(Chemosynthetic, Topographic Information, Live Bottom Information, ROV Surveys)

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### CHEMOSYNTHETIC

The seafloor disturbing activities proposed under this Plan are in water depths less than 400 meters (1312 feet). This section of the Plan is not applicable.

### TOPOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Chevron does not propose the use of a semi-submersible drilling rig, nor propose to place associated anchors within 500' of the no activity zone and the proposed surface location is not located within 3-miles of an identified topographic feature, therefore, the activities proposed under this Plan are not affected by a topographic feature.

### LIVE BOTTOM (PINNACLE TREND) INFORMATION

West Cameron Block 74 is not located within the vicinity of a proposed live bottom area and therefore, this section of the Plan is not applicable.

### REMOTELY OPERATED VEHICLE (ROV) SURVEYS

The seafloor disturbing activities proposed under this Plan are in water depths less than 400 meters (1312 feet), therefore, an ROV survey plan is not required.

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Chevron contracted Tesla Offshore, LLC to provide an Archaeological Assessment in accordance with NTL 2002-G01.

West Cameron Block 74 is located in an area which studies have determined have a high probability for historic shipwreck site archaeological resources. A survey was conducted during July 2004 which contained an analysis of the potential for historic shipwreck site archaeological resources.

The geophysical data indicated that the proposed activity will not disturb any shipwrecks within the lease.

# SECTION E WASTE AND DISCHARGE INFORMATION
(Discharges and Disposed Wastes)

## DISCHARGES

Discharges describe those wastes generated by your proposed activities that you dispose of by releasing them into the waters of the Gulf of Mexico at the site where they are generated, usually after receiving some form of treatment before they are released, and in compliance with applicable NPDES permits or State requirements.

In accordance with NTL 2003-G17 overboard discharges generated by the activities proposed by this Plan are not required to be submitted in this Initial Exploration Plan. All discharges will be in compliance with our NPDES General Permit GMG 290000.

## DISPOSED WASTES

Disposed wastes describe those waste generated by your proposed activities that are disposed of by means other than by releasing them into the waters of the Gulf of Mexico at the site where they are generated. These wastes can be disposed of by offsite release, injection, encapsulation, or placement at either onshore or offshore permitted locations for the purpose of returning them back to the environment.

Chevron U.S.A., Inc. will manifest these wastes prior to being offloaded from the structure and transported to shore for disposal at approved sites regulated by the State of Louisiana. Chevron will utilize the UIC-28 Waste Manifest Shipping Tickets to monitor the transportation and disposition of this associated waste; and will comply with any approvals or reporting and record keeping requirements imposed by the State where ultimate disposal will occur.

The Table included in Attachment E-1 details those wastes generated by our proposed activities that are disposed of by means of offsite release, injection, encapsulation or placement at either onshore or offshore permitted locations for the purpose of returning them back to the environment.

# SECTION F OIL SPILL INFORMATION

The following information is regarding the recent biennial update to our Regional Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) submitted to the Minerals Management Service on February 28, 2004 and approved on June 21, 2004.

Chevron USA, Inc., Sabine Pipeline Co., Inc. and Chevron Pipeline Company, Inc., all of which are wholly or partially owned subsidiaries of Chevron Texaco Corporation are covered under the above referenced OSRP as well as the activities proposed in this Initial Exploration Plan.

All produced liquid hydrocarbons associated with this application will be transported by pipeline.

Clean Gulf Associates (CGA) and Marine Spill Response Corporation (MSRC) are our primary oil spill removal organizations and they will supply the necessary equipment and personnel. CGA and MSRC have equipment pre-staged around the Gulf of Mexico. The major locations of this equipment are Lake Charles, Intracoastal City, Houma, Grand Isle, Fort Jackson and Venice, Louisiana; Galveston, Texas; and Pascagoula, Mississippi.

As noted in our Regional Oil Spill Response Plan, submitted on February 28, 2004 and approved on June 21, 2004, Grand Isle Shipyard, Grand Isle, LA and Mississippi State Port Authority-Port of Gulfport, Gulfport, MS are possible staging areas in the worst-case discharge scenarios. Additional staging areas are Chevron's four (4) shore bases located in Intracoastal City, Leeville and Venice, Louisiana and Pascagoula, Mississippi. Other staging areas will be pursued as warranted by any specific response.

Please refer to the attached table to compare worst-case scenario from our OSRP to the worst-case scenario from the proposed activities in our Initial Exploration Plan.

## Worst-Case Discharge Analysis

| Category | Regional OSRP "Nearshore" Worst-Case Discharge Scenario | Regional OSRP "Farshore" Worst-Case Discharge Scenario | Regional OSRP "Mobile Rig Exploration Drilling Ops." Worst-Case Discharge Scenario | EP or DOCD |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Type of Activity *(Types of activities include P/L, P/F, Caisson, subsea completions or manifold, and mobile drilling rig)* | Platform Well | Sub-sea Completion | Drillship | Mobile Drilling Rig |
| Spill Location *(area/block)* | South Timbalier Block 37 OCS-G-02625 | Green Canyon Block 237 OCS-G-15563 | Green Canyon Block 640, OCS-G-20082 | West Cameron Block 74 OCS-G-22504 |
| Facility Designation *(e.g., Well #2, Platform JA, Pipeline Segment No. 6373)* | Platform I – Well #8 MMS Facility ID No. 186 | Platform A – aka "Typhoon" Well #282-1 MMS Facility ID No. 735 | Exploratory Lease | Wells "A" & "B" |
| Distance to Nearest Shoreline *(miles)* | 8-miles | 92 miles | 118 miles | 12.39 miles |
| Volume | | | | |
| Storage Tanks (total) | 0 barrels | 900 barrels | 37,688 barrels | |
| Flowlines (on facility) | | | | |
| Lease Term Pipelines | | | | |
| Uncontrolled Blowout (volume per day) | 7,607 barrels | 21,000 barrels | 154,900 barrels | |
| Total Volume | 7,607 barrels | 21,900 barrels | 192,588 barrels | |
| Type of Oil(s) *(crude oil, condensate, diesel)* | Crude Oil | Crude Oil | Crude Oil | Condensate |
| APIE Gravity(s)-Provide APIE gravity of all oils given under "Type of Oil(s)" above. Estimate for EP's) | 32.0° | 32.9° | 28°, 36° | 42.0° |

Since Chevron has the capability to respond to the worst-case spill scenario included in its Regional OSRP, submitted for approval on February 28, 2004, and since the worst-case scenario determined for our Initial Exploration Plan does not replace the worst-case scenario in our Regional OSRP; I hereby certify that Chevron has the capability to respond, to the maximum extent practicable, to a worst-case discharge, or a substantial threat of such a discharge, resulting from the activities proposed in our Initial Exploration Plan.

## Facility Tanks, Production Vessels

The following table provides information on tanks and/or production vessels at the facility that will store oil with a capacity of 25 barrels or more.

| Type of Storage Tank | Type of Facility | Tank Capacity (bbls) | Number of Tanks | Total Capacity (bbls) | Fluid Gravity (API) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fuel | Jack-up | 2287 bbls | 1 | 2287 bbls | N/A |

# SECTION G AIR EMISSIONS INFORMATION

Offshore air emissions related to the proposed activities result mainly from drilling and completion operations, helicopters and vessels. These emissions occur mainly from burning fuels and natural gas and from venting or evaporation of hydrocarbons. The combustion of fuel occurs primarily on diesel-powered generators, pumps or motors and from lighter fuel motors.

Primary air pollutants associated with OCS activities are nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, sulphur oxides, volatile organic compounds and suspended particulates.

Per NTL 2003-G17, if activities proposed in a Plan or Document take place at the site of an existing facility, two different emission calculations are necessary, Plan Emissions and Complex Total Emissions. Plan Emissions are the calculated emissions associated with the activities proposed in your Document. Complex Total Emissions are the Plan Emissions plus projected emissions from all existing co-located facilities. There are no existing facilities or activities co-located with the proposed activities in this Plan; therefore the Complex Total Emissions are the same as the Plan Emissions and only one set of emission calculations is included.

Included in this section as **Attachment G-1** are the Air Quality Screening Worksheet and Summary Information listing Plan Emission amounts and Calculated Exemption Amounts prepared in accordance with NTL 2003-G17. Complete worksheets have been prepared and are available upon request.

## SECTION H ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS
(Environmental Report)

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Pursuant to NTL 2003-G17, Chevron USA, Inc. has included with this Initial Exploration Plan an **Environmental Impact Analysis** prepared by John Chance Land Survey, Inc, which addresses the activities proposed for West Cameron Block 74 OCS-G-22504.

# SECTION I COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY INFORMATION

In accordance with the Coastal Zone Management Program of the State of Louisiana, when an OCS plan describes in detail permit activities affecting the coastal use or resources in or outside of the state's coastal zone, such activities must comply with the policies of the States' approved program and be conducted in a manner consistent with the program.

Chevron has reviewed the enforceable policies for the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program related to our proposed activities. Chevron believes the activities proposed in this Plan will have no direct effect on those policies as outlined in 15 CFR Part 930.70-85.

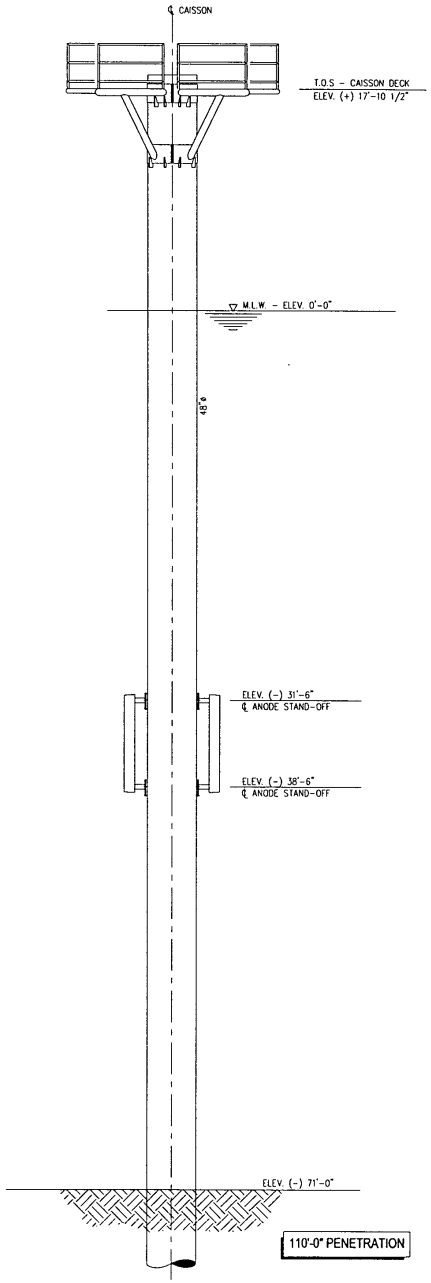
A statement attesting to Chevron's consistency with Louisiana's Coastal Zone Management Program, signed by our Company's authorized representative, is submitted with this Plan. To the best of our knowledge, the proposed activities included in our Environmental Impact Analysis and Initial Exploration Plan will be conducted in a manner consistent with all existing Federal and State laws, regulations and resultant enforceable program policies as stated in the Coastal Zone Management Program for the State of Louisiana.

## SECTION J PLAN INFORMATION FORM

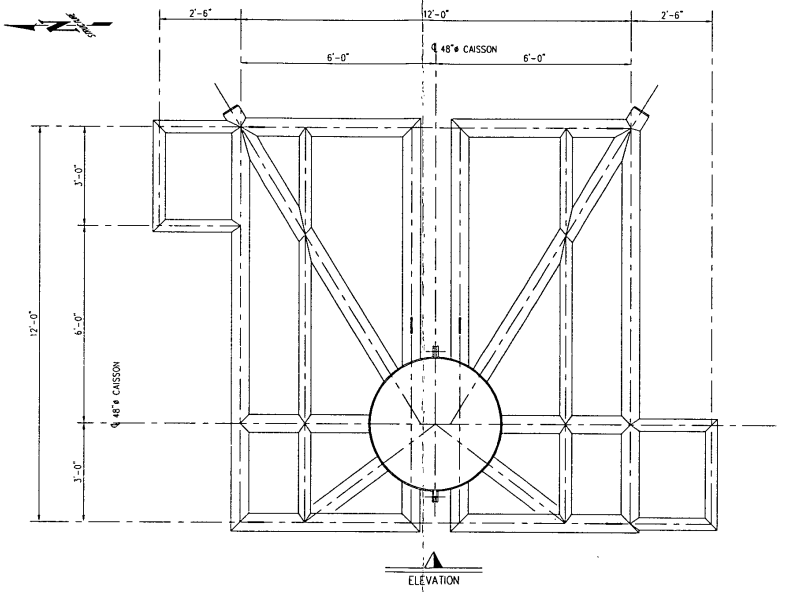
The MMS-137 Plan Information Form is included as Attachment A-3.

# ATTACHMENT A-1

# Temporary Structure Drawing




CAISSON WELL PROTECTOR ELEVATION
SCALE: 3/16"=1'-0"




CAISSON DECK PLAN
T.O.S. AT ELEV. (+) 17'-10 1/2"
SCALE: 1/2"=1'-0"

| NO | BY | REVISION DESCRIPTION | DATE | CHK | APP |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | RAB | ISSUED FOR PERMIT | 02/05/2004 | | |

ChevronTexaco
Chevron U.S.A. Inc.

| | |
|---|---|
| DWG. SCALE: 3/16"=1'-0" | DRAWN BY: NN |
| ORIG. DATE: 07/20/2004 | CHECKED BY: CDN |
| PROJECT AFE: | APPROVED BY: CCL |
| PLOT SCALE: 1=64 | PLOT DATE: 7/20/04 16:00 |

WEST CAMERON
BLOCK 74
OCS-G-22504
"A" & "B" WELL CAISSON
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT

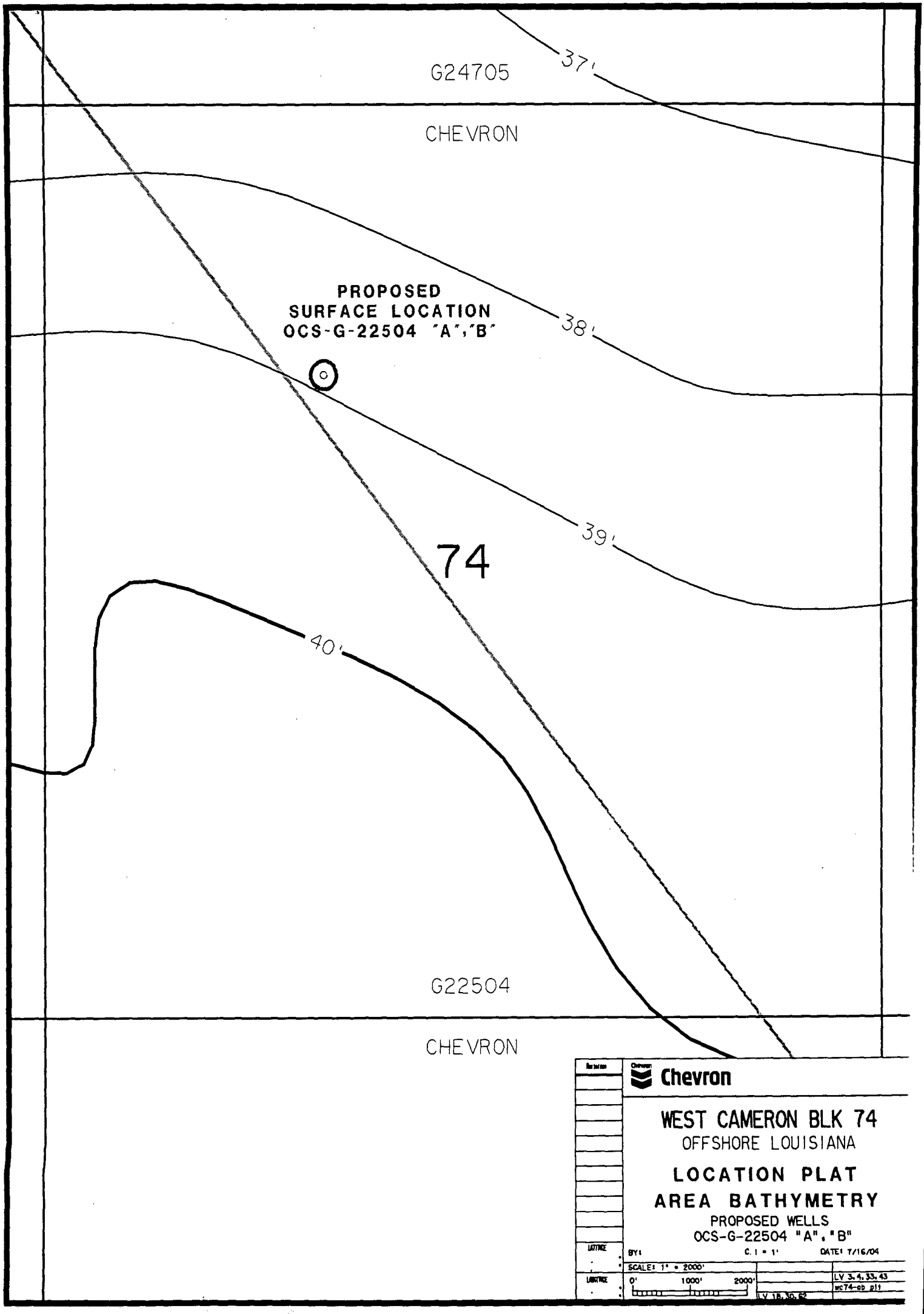
SHEET C

DRAWING NUMBER A2067U01

REV 0

# ATTACHMENT A-2

# Location/Bathymetry Map




Chevron

# WEST CAMERON BLK 74

OFFSHORE LOUISIANA

## LOCATION PLAT

## AREA BATHYMETRY

PROPOSED WELLS
OCS-G-22504 "A", "B"

BY: C. I = 1' DATE: 7/16/04

SCALE: 1" = 2000'

0' 1000' 2000'

LV 3, 4, 33, 43
wc74-pp p11

LV 18, 30, 62

# ATTACHMENT A-3

## Plan Information Form
## MMS Form 137

U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service

OMB Control Number: 1010-0049
OMB Approval Expires: August 31, 2006

# OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM

| General Information | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Type of OCS Plan: | X Exploration Plan (EP) | | Development Operations Coordination Document (DOCD) |
| Company Name: Chevron U.S.A., Inc. | | MMS Operator Number: 00078 | |
| Address: P. O. Box 69100 | | Contact Person: Linda F. Granger | |
| 5750 Johnston Street | | Phone Number: (337) 989-3203 | |
| Lafayette, LA 70596 | | E-Mail Address: LFGranger@ChevronTexaco.com | |
| Lease(s):OCS-G22504 | Area: West Cameron | Block(s) 74 | Project Name (If Applicable): N/A |

| Objective(s) | Oil | X Gas | Sulphur | Salt | Onshore Base: Intracoastal City, LA | Distance to closest land (Miles): 68 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

## Description of Proposed Activities (Mark all that Apply)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | Exploration Drilling | | Development Drilling |
| X | Well completion | | Installation of production platform |
| | Well test flaring (for more than 48 hours) | | Installation of production facilities |
| X | Installation of caisson or platform as well protection structure | | Installation of satellite structure |
| | Installation of sub sea wellheads and/or manifolds | | Commence production |
| | Installation of lease term pipelines | | Other (specify and describe) |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Have you submitted or do you plan to submit a Conservation Information Document to accompany this plan? | | Yes | X | No |
| Do you propose to use new or unusual technology to conduct your activities? | | Yes | X | No |
| Do you propose any facility that will serve as a host facility for deepwater sub sea development? | | Yes | X | No |
| Do you propose any activities that may disturb an MMS-designated high-probability archaeological area? | | Yes | X | No |
| Have all of the surface locations of your proposed activities been previously reviewed and approved by MMS? | | Yes | X | No |

## Tentative Schedule of Proposed Activities

| Proposed Activity | Start Date | End Date | No. of Days |
|---|---|---|---|
| Drill, Complete, T&A & set Protective Structure Well "A" | 09/01/2004 | 12/01/2004 | 92 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

## Description of Drilling Rig

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | Jack up | | Drill ship |
| | Gorilla Jack up | | Platform rig |
| | Semi submersible | | Submersible |
| | DP Semi submersible | | Other (attach description) * |

Drilling Rig Name (If known) **Rig High Island II**

## Description of Production Platform

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Caisson | | Tension leg platform |
| X | Well protector | | Compliant tower |
| | Fixed platform | | Guyed tower |
| | Sub sea manifold | | Floating production system |
| | Spar | | Other (attach description) |

## Description of Lease Term Pipelines

| From (Facility/Area/Block | To (Facility/Area/Block) | Diameter (Inches) | Length (Feet) |
|---|---|---|---|
| N/A | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

## OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM (Continued)

Include one copy of this page for each proposed well/structure

| Proposed Well / Structure Location | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Well or Structure Name / Number (If renaming well or structure, reference previous name): **Well "A"** | | | | Sub sea Completion | | |
| Anchor Radius (if applicable) in feet | | | | | Yes | X | No |
| | Surface Location | | | Bottom-Hole Location (For Wells) | | |
| Lease No. | OCS-G-22504 | | | | | |
| Area Name | West Cameron | | | | | |
| Block No. | 74 | | | | | |
| Block line Departures (in feet) | N / S Departure: 4366' | F N L | | N / S Departure: | F L | |
| | E / W Departure: 4931' | F W L | | E / W Departure: | F L | |
| Lambert X-Y Coordinates | X: 1,381,625 | | | X: | | |
| | Y: 345,150 | | | Y: | | |
| Latitude / Longitude | Latitude: 29 36' 04.919" | | | Latitude: | | |
| | Longitude: 93 16' 45.140" | | | Longitude: | | |
| | TVD (Feet) | | MD (Feet) | | Water Depth (Feet) 39' | |

**Anchor Locations for Drilling Rig or Construction Barge ( If anchor radius supplied above, not necessary)**

| Anchor Name or No. | Area | Block | X Coordinate | Y Coordinate | Length of Anchor Chain on Seafloor |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| See Note Below | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |

***Note: Chevron does not propose the use of any associated anchors or permanent anchors during the drilling and completion of this project.***

***PUBLIC INFORMATION***

U.S. Department of the Interior
Minerals Management Service

OMB Control Number: 1010-0049
OMB Approval Expires: August 31, 2006

# OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM

| General Information | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Type of OCS Plan: | X | Exploration Plan (EP) | | Development Operations Coordination Document (DOCD) | | | | | | | |
| Company Name: Chevron U.S.A., Inc. | | | | MMS Operator Number: 00078 | | | | | | | |
| Address: P. O. Box 69100 | | | | Contact Person: Linda F. Granger | | | | | | | |
| 5750 Johnston Street | | | | Phone Number: (337) 989-3203 | | | | | | | |
| Lafayette, LA 70596 | | | | E-Mail Address: LFGranger@ChevronTexaco.com | | | | | | | |
| Lease(s):OCS-G22504 | | Area: West Cameron | | Block(s) 74 | | Project Name (If Applicable): N/A | | | | | |
| Objective(s) | | Oil | X Gas | | Sulphur | | Salt | Onshore Base: Intracoastal City, LA | | Distance to closest land (Miles): 68 | |

## Description of Proposed Activities (Mark all that Apply)

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | Exploration Drilling | | Development Drilling |
| X | Well completion | | Installation of production platform |
| | Well test flaring (for more than 48 hours) | | Installation of production facilities |
| X | Installation of caisson or platform as well protection structure | | Installation of satellite structure |
| | Installation of sub sea wellheads and/or manifolds | | Commence production |
| | Installation of lease term pipelines | | Other (specify and describe) |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Have you submitted or do you plan to submit a Conservation Information Document to accompany this plan? | | Yes | X | No |
| Do you propose to use new or unusual technology to conduct your activities? | | Yes | X | No |
| Do you propose any facility that will serve as a host facility for deepwater sub sea development? | | Yes | X | No |
| Do you propose any activities that may disturb an MMS-designated high-probability archaeological area? | | Yes | X | No |
| Have all of the surface locations of your proposed activities been previously reviewed and approved by MMS? | | Yes | X | No |

## Tentative Schedule of Proposed Activities

| Proposed Activity | Start Date | End Date | No. of Days |
|---|---|---|---|
| Drill, Complete, T&A & set Protective Structure Well "B" | 03/01/2005 | 05/16/2005 | 77 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

## Description of Drilling Rig

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| X | Jack up | | Drill ship |
| | Gorilla Jack up | | Platform rig |
| | Semi submersible | | Submersible |
| | DP Semi submersible | | Other (attach description) * |

Drilling Rig Name (If known) **Rig High Island II**

## Description of Production Platform

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Caisson | | Tension leg platform |
| X | Well protector | | Compliant tower |
| | Fixed platform | | Guyed tower |
| | Sub sea manifold | | Floating production system |
| | Spar | | Other (attach description) |

## Description of Lease Term Pipelines

| From (Facility/Area/Block | To (Facility/Area/Block) | Diameter (Inches) | Length (Feet) |
|---|---|---|---|
| N/A | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

## OCS PLAN INFORMATION FORM (Continued)

Include one copy of this page for each proposed well/structure

| Proposed Well / Structure Location | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Well or Structure Name / Number (If renaming well or structure, reference previous name): **Well "B"** | | | | Sub sea Completion | |
| Anchor Radius (if applicable) in feet | | | | Yes X No | |
| | Surface Location | | | Bottom-Hole Location (For Wells) | |
| Lease No. | OCS-G-22504 | | | | |
| Area Name | West Cameron | | | | |
| Block No. | 74 | | | | |
| Block line Departures (in feet) | N / S Departure: 4366' | F N L | | N / S Departure: | F L |
| | E / W Departure: 4931' | F W L | | E / W Departure: | F L |
| Lambert X-Y Coordinates | X: 1,381,625 | | | X: | |
| | Y: 345,150 | | | Y: | |
| Latitude / Longitude | Latitude: 29 36' 04.919" | | | Latitude: | |
| | Longitude: 93 16' 45.140" | | | Longitude: | |
| | TVD (Feet) | | MD (Feet) | | Water Depth (Feet) 39' |

**Anchor Locations for Drilling Rig or Construction Barge ( If anchor radius supplied above, not necessary)**

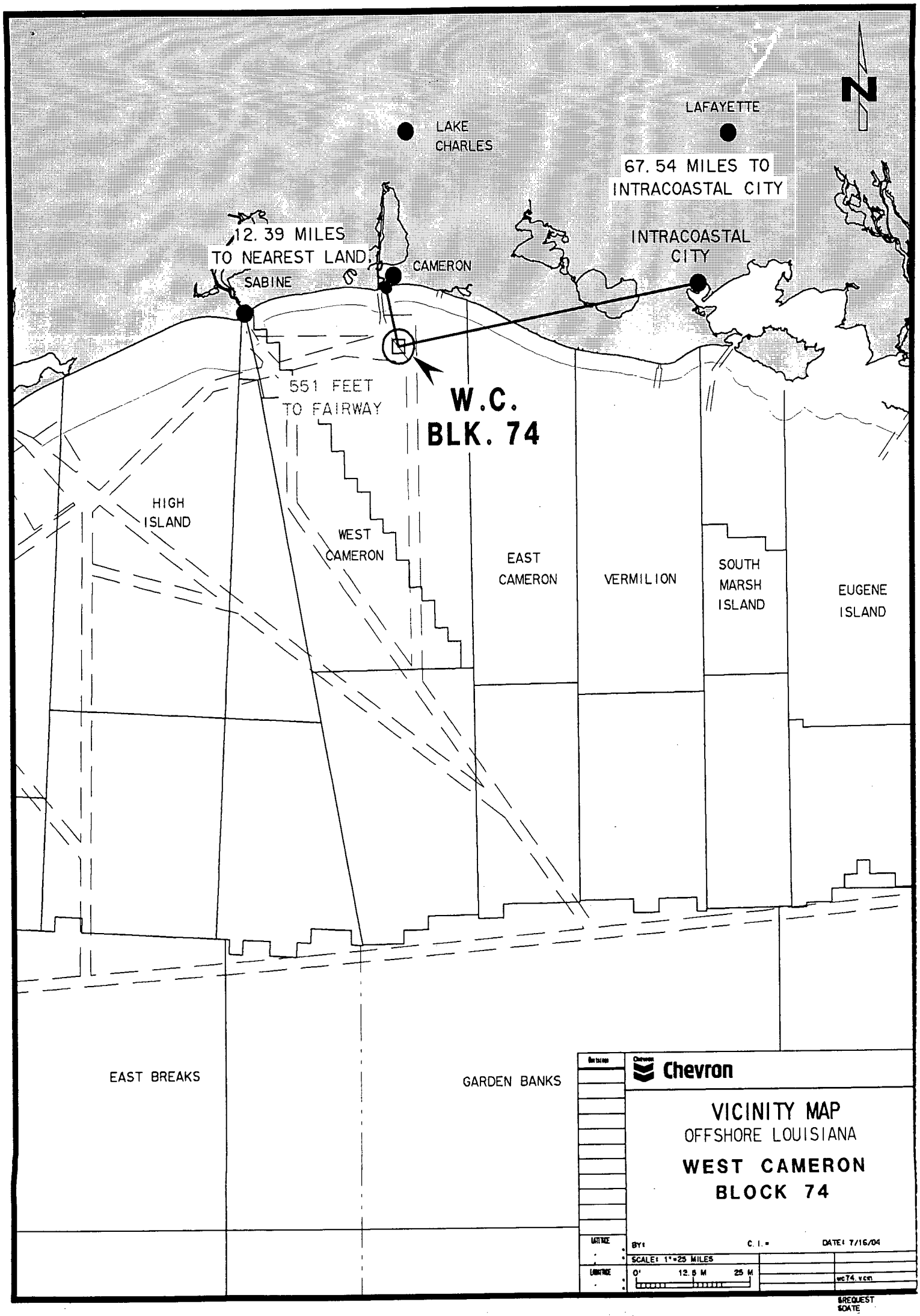
| Anchor Name or No. | Area | Block | X Coordinate | Y Coordinate | Length of Anchor Chain on Seafloor |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| See Note Below | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |
| | | | X= | Y= | |

***Note: Chevron does not propose the use of any associated anchors or permanent anchors during the drilling and completion of this project.***

***PUBLIC INFORAMTION***

# ATTACHMENT B-1

## Vicinity Map




Chevron

# VICINITY MAP

OFFSHORE LOUISIANA

## WEST CAMERON BLOCK 74

LATITUDE

LONGITUDE

BY:

C. I. =

DATE: 7/16/04

SCALE: 1"=25 MILES

0' 12.5 M 25 M

wc74.vcm

REQUEST DATE

# ATTACHMENT C-4

# Shallow Hazard Assessment

**Tesla Offshore, LLC**
36499 Perkins Road
Prairieville, Louisiana 70769
Telephone: (225) 673-2163
Fax: (225) 744-3116

July 16, 2004

Minerals Management Service (MS 5230)
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

**RE: Chevron U.S.A. Inc.**
**Proposed OCS-G 22504 'A' Surface Location**
**Block 74, West Cameron Area**
**Archaeological & Shallow Hazard Analysis**

Dear Staff:

Chevron U.S.A. Inc. proposes to drill the OCS-G 22504 Well 'A' surface location at:

- ***4,366' FNL & 4,931' FWL of Block 74, West Cameron Area***

Tesla Offshore, LLC surveyed the lease block in July 2004 along a 50-meter primary grid spacing with 900-meter tie lines. Chevron U.S.A. Inc. operates the lease and selected Tesla Offshore, LLC to prepare this shallow hazard analysis and archaeological assessment of the proposed drill site to comply with **NTL No. 98-20 and NTL No. 2002-G01** from the Minerals Management Service. Geophysical record copies are enclosed for the magnetometer, side scan sonar, subbottom profiler, echo sounder, and near trace seismic sections from the survey line nearest the proposed well site as required by the MMS in **NTL No. 2003-G17**.

- ***Water depth*** is 39 feet surrounding the proposed drill site, and there were no topographic irregularities along the seafloor.
- ***Seafloor soils*** are clayey sand (MMS database).
- ***Identified Man-Made features*** include the Fairway Boundary 550 feet southwest of the proposed well site. No pipelines or wells presently exist in the lease.
- ***Magnetic Anomalies*** nearest the proposed well site included #8 approximately 800 feet NE of the proposed drill site. The 5-gamma/200-foot magnetic anomaly will not hinder rig moves or drilling at the proposed location. Sonar data recorded a small cluster of debris approximately one mile SE of the proposed well. The sonar target will not be impacted by rig moves or drilling. The seafloor surrounding the proposed well site was clear of protruding obstructions and shipwrecks.

- ***Subbottom Data*** showed a zone of structural uplift 550 feet southwest of the proposed location at a depth of 15 feet below the seafloor. The localized uplift due to over-pressured gas will not be intersected by rig placement or drilling at the proposed well site. Subbottom profiles highlighted 12 feet of dense reflectors between the seafloor and acoustically opaque deposits containing dispersed methane and carbon dioxide in the Beaumont clay section. Seismic sections showed an amplitude anomalies in other portions of the lease, but none at the proposed location.

The operator has identified the primary hazards to rig movements, anchor deployments, and drilling. Subbottom profiles indicated that the near-seafloor layers at the proposed well site exhibit low probability for the occurrence of prehistoric archaeological features. The proposed drilling will not disturb any shipwrecks based on the geophysical data within the lease.

The proposed well site, Fairway-Anchorage boundary, one (1) sonar target, and designated magnetic anomalies will be marked with appropriate marine survey equipment during rig moves and drilling to comply with the **MMS On-Site Requirements specified in NTL No. 98-20, Section IV, Item B.** In lieu of using buoys as stipulated in Item B-1, the operator requests MMS approval to mark potential hazards with best available technology using computer graphic screens that are integrated to DGPS positioning units aboard the drilling rig and all support vessels.

In further compliance with **Item B-2**, a map at a scale of 1:12,000 will be provided to key personnel on the drilling rig and anchor handling vessels. The field map will depict the location of the proposed well, any proposed anchor patterns, Fairway boundary, and designated magnetic anomalies.

Chevron U.S.A. Inc. and subcontractors will apply the safest and best available technologies during rig moves and drilling operations.

Yours truly,

Robert J Floyd

Robert J. Floyd Ph.D.
Marine Archaeologist
Shallow Hazard Analyst

Tesla Offshore, LLC
36499 Perkins Road
Prairieville, Louisiana 70769
Telephone: (225) 673-2163
Fax: (225) 744-3116

July 16, 2004

Minerals Management Service (MS 5230)
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region
1201 Elmwood Park Blvd.
New Orleans, LA 70123-2394

**RE: Chevron U.S.A. Inc.**
**Proposed OCS-G 22504 'B' Surface Location**
**Block 74, West Cameron Area**
**Archaeological & Shallow Hazard Analysis**

Dear Staff:

Chevron U.S.A. Inc. proposes to drill the OCS-G 22504 Well 'B' surface location at:

- ***4,366' FNL & 4,931' FWL of Block 74, West Cameron Area***

Tesla Offshore, LLC surveyed the lease block in July 2004 along a 50-meter primary grid spacing with 900-meter tie lines. Chevron U.S.A. Inc. operates the lease and selected Tesla Offshore, LLC to prepare this shallow hazard analysis and archaeological assessment of the proposed drill site to comply with **NTL No. 98-20 and NTL No. 2002-G01** from the Minerals Management Service. Geophysical record copies are enclosed for the magnetometer, side scan sonar, subbottom profiler, echo sounder, and near trace seismic sections from the survey line nearest the proposed well site as required by the MMS in **NTL No. 2003-G17**.

- ***Water depth*** is 39 feet surrounding the proposed drill site, and there were no topographic irregularities along the seafloor.
- ***Seafloor soils*** are clayey sand (MMS database).
- ***Identified Man-Made features*** include the Fairway Boundary 550 feet southwest of the proposed well site. No pipelines or wells presently exist in the lease.
- ***Magnetic Anomalies*** nearest the proposed well site included #8 approximately 800 feet NE of the proposed drill site. The 5-gamma/200-foot magnetic anomaly will not hinder rig moves or drilling at the proposed location. Sonar data recorded a small cluster of debris approximately one mile SE of the proposed well. The sonar target will not be impacted by rig moves or drilling. The seafloor surrounding the proposed well site was clear of protruding obstructions and shipwrecks.

- ***Subbottom Data*** showed a zone of structural uplift 550 feet southwest of the proposed location at a depth of 15 feet below the seafloor. The localized uplift due to over-pressured gas will not be intersected by rig placement or drilling at the proposed well site. Subbottom profiles highlighted 12 feet of dense reflectors between the seafloor and acoustically opaque deposits containing dispersed methane and carbon dioxide in the Beaumont clay section. Seismic sections showed amplitude anomalies in other portions of the lease, but none at the proposed location.

The operator has identified the primary hazards to rig movements, anchor deployments, and drilling. Subbottom profiles indicated that the near-seafloor layers at the proposed well site exhibit low probability for the occurrence of prehistoric archaeological features. The proposed drilling will not disturb any shipwrecks based on the geophysical data within the lease.

The proposed well site, Fairway-Anchorage boundary, one (1) sonar target, and designated magnetic anomalies will be marked with appropriate marine survey equipment during rig moves and drilling to comply with the **MMS On-Site Requirements specified in NTL No. 98-20, Section IV, Item B.** In lieu of using buoys as stipulated in Item B-1, the operator requests MMS approval to mark potential hazards with best available technology using computer graphic screens that are integrated to DGPS positioning units aboard the drilling rig and all support vessels.

In further compliance with **Item B-2**, a map at a scale of 1:12,000 will be provided to key personnel on the drilling rig and anchor handling vessels. The field map will depict the location of the proposed well, Fairway boundary, and designated magnetic anomalies.

Chevron U.S.A. Inc. and subcontractors will apply the safest and best available technologies during rig moves and drilling operations.

Yours truly,

Robert J Floyd

Robert J. Floyd Ph.D.
Marine Archaeologist
Shallow Hazard Analyst

# ATTACHMENT E-1

# Disposed Wastes Table

# DISPOSAL TABLE (Wastes to be disposed of, not discharges)
# Well "A"

| Type of Waste Approximate Composition | Amount* | Rate per Day | Name/Location of Disposal Facility | Treatment and/or Storage, Transport and Disposal Method |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Spent oil based drilling fluids and cuttings | 3500 bbl/well | 100 bbl/day | Environmental Treatment Team, Intracoastal City, LA | Transport to shore in cuttings box or tank. |
| Spent synthetic-based drilling fluids and cuttings | 2100 bbl/well | 100 bbl/day | Environmental Treatment Team, Intracoastal City, LA | Transport to shore in cuttings box or tank. |
| Oil Contaminated produced sand | None | None | None | None |
| Waste oil | None | None | None | None |
| Produced water | None | None | None | None |
| Produced water | None | None | None | None |
| Norm-contaminated wastes | None | None | None | None |
| Trash and debris | 1,000 $ft^3$ | 3 $ft^3$/day | Environmental Treatment Team, Intracoastal City, LA | Transport to shore in storage bins. |
| Chemical product wastes | 50 bbls/yr | 2 bbls/day | Environmental Treatment Team Intracoastal City, LA | Transport to shore in cuttings box or tank. |
| Chemical product wastes | None | None | None | None |
| Workover fluids | None | None | None | None |

*Can be expressed as a volume, weight, or rate

# DISPOSAL TABLE (Wastes to be disposed of, not discharges)
# Well "B"

| Type of Waste Approximate Composition | Amount* | Rate per Day | Name/Location of Disposal Facility | Treatment and/or Storage, Transport and Disposal Method |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Spent oil based drilling fluids and cuttings | 2950 bbl/well | 100 bbl/day | Environmental Treatment Team, Intracoastal City, LA | Transport to shore in cuttings box or tank. |
| Spent synthetic-based drilling fluids and cuttings | 1900 bbl/well | 100 bbl/day | Environmental Treatment Team, Intracoastal City, LA | Transport to shore in cuttings box or tank. |
| Oil Contaminated produced sand | None | None | None | None |
| Waste oil | None | None | None | None |
| Produced water | None | None | None | None |
| Produced water | None | None | None | None |
| Norm-contaminated wastes | None | None | None | None |
| Trash and debris | 1,000 $ft^3$ | 3 $ft^3$/day | Environmental Treatment Team, Intracoastal City, LA | Transport to shore in storage bins. |
| Chemical product wastes | 50 bbls/yr | 2 bbls/day | Environmental Treatment Team Intracoastal City, LA | Transport to shore in cuttings box or tank. |
| Chemical product wastes | None | None | None | None |
| Workover fluids | None | None | None | None |

*Can be expressed as a volume, weight, or rate

# ATTACHMENT G-1

# Air Quality Report

EP

# AIR QUALITY SCREENING CHECKLIST

OMB Control No.
Expiration Date: Pending

| | |
|---|---|
| COMPANY | Chevron USA Inc. |
| AREA | West Cameron |
| BLOCK | Block 74 |
| LEASE | OCS-G-22504 |
| PLATFORM | N/A |
| WELL | Well "A" & "B" |
| | |
| COMPANY CONTACT | Linda F. Granger |
| TELEPHONE NO. | (337) 989-3203 |
| REMARKS | Drill, complete, T&A and install Protective |
| | Structure. |
| | |

| "Yes" | "No" | Air Quality Screening Questions |
|---|---|---|
| | X | 1. Is any calculated Complex Total (CT) Emission amount (in tons) associated with your proposed development activities more than 90% of the amounts calculated using the following formulas: $CT=3400D^{2/3}$ for CO, and CT = 33.3D for the other air pollutants (where D=distance to shore in miles)? |
| | X | 2. Do your emission calculations include any emission reduction measures or modified emission factors? |
| | X | 3. Are your proposed exploration activities located east of $87.5^0$ W longitude? |
| | X | 4. Do you expect to encounter $H_2S$ at concentrations greater than 20 parts per million (ppm)? |
| | X | 5. Do you propose to flare or vent natural gas for more than 48 continuous hours from proposed well? |
| | X | 6. Do you propose to burn produced hydrocarbon liquids? |
| | | |

## DOCD AIR QUALITY SCREENING CHECKLIST

| | |
|---|---|
| **COMPANY** | Chevron USA Inc. |
| **AREA** | West Cameron |
| **BLOCK** | Block 74 |
| **LEASE** | OCS-G-22504 |
| **PLATFORM** | N/A |
| **WELL** | Wells "A" & "B" |
| **COMPANY CONTACT** | Linda F. Granger |
| **TELEPHONE NO.** | (337)989-3203 |
| **REMARKS** | Drill, complete, T&A and set Protective Structure |
| | Total Plan and Complex Emission Calculations |
| | |
| | |

## AIR EMISSION CALCULATIONS

OMB Control No. xxxx-xxxx
Expiration Date: Pending

| COMPANY | AREA | BLOCK | LEASE | PLATFORM | WELL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chevron USA In | West Cameron | Block 74 | OCS-G-22504 | N/A | Wells "A" & "B" |

| Year | Emitted Substance | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | PM | SOx | NOx | VOC | CO |
| 2004 | 4.65 | 19.86 | 150.26 | 4.84 | 32.77 |
| 2005 | 3.97 | 16.99 | 128.49 | 4.13 | 28.03 |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Allowable | 412.59 | 412.59 | 412.59 | 412.59 | 18205.10 |

# ATTACHMENT H-1

# Environmental Impact Analysis

# ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ANALYSIS
# INITIAL EXPLORATION PLAN

## WEST CAMERON AREA BLOCK 74
## OCS-G 22504 WELLS A & B
## OFFSHORE LOUISIANA

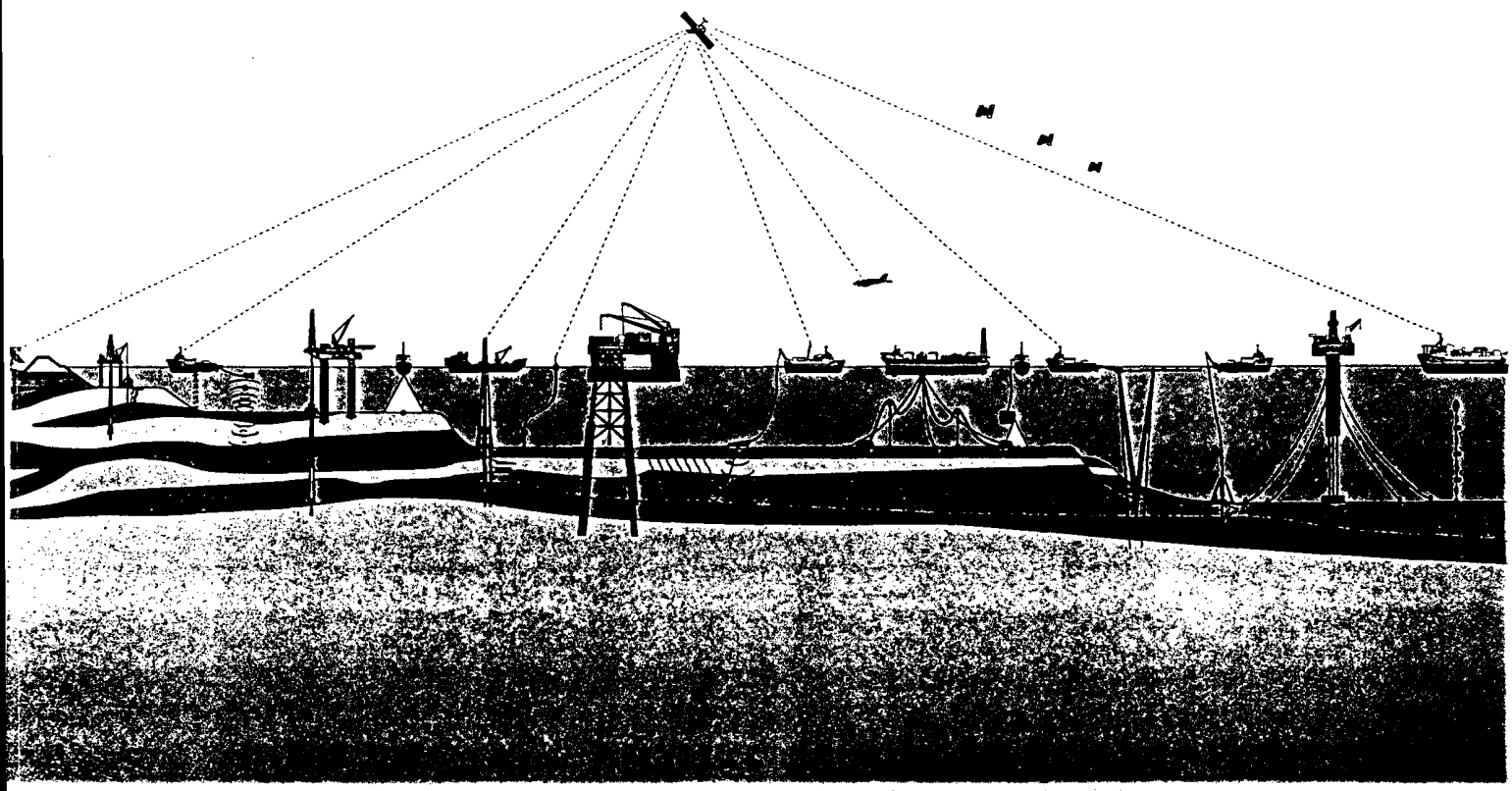
CHEVRON U.S.A., INC.
5750 JOHNSON STREET
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70596

SUBMITTED TO:
MS. LINDA F. GRANGER
PERMIT SPECIALIST

JULY 2004

PREPARED BY:
JOHN CHANCE LAND SURVEYS, INC.
REGULATORY AND ECOLOGICAL SERVICES GROUP
200 DULLES DRIVE
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70506

CHANCE PROJECT NO. 04-5335



## (A) Impact-Producing Factors (IPFs)

Contained below is a worksheet provided by the MMS that identifies the environmental resources that could be impacted by IPFs. If an "x" is noted in one of the fields below it is because we determined that that specific environmental resource might be impacted by that specific IPF. Footnotes have been included for some of the cells and these correspond to a statement that explains the applicability for the proposed activity for West Cameron Area Block 74. Where any of the IPFs may affect a specific environmental resource an analysis of that effect is provided.

### Environmental Impact Analysis Worksheet

| Environmental Resources | Impact Producing Factors (IPFs) Categories and Examples Refer to a recent GOM OCS Lease Sales EIS for a more complete list of IPFs | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Emissions (air, noise, light, etc.) | Effluents (muds, cuttings, other discharges to the water column or seafloor) | Physical disturbances to the seafloor (rig or anchor emplacements, etc.) | Wastes sent to shore for treatment of disposal | Accidents (e.g., oil spills, chemical spills, $H_2S$ releases) | Other IPFs Identified |
| **Site-specific at Offshore Location** | | | | | | |
| Designated topographic features | | (1) | (1) | | (1) | |
| Pinnacle Trend area live bottoms | | (2) | (2) | | (2) | |
| Eastern Gulf live bottoms | | (3) | (3) | | (3) | |
| Chemosynthetic communities | | | (4) | | | |
| Water quality | | x | | | x | |
| Fisheries | | x | | | x | |
| Marine mammals | x (8) | x | | x | x (8) | |
| Sea turtles | x (8) | x | | x | x (8) | |
| Air quality | x (9) | | | | | |
| Shipwreck sites (known or potential) | | | (7) | | | |
| Prehistoric archaeological sites | | | (7) | | | |
| **Vicinity of Offshore Location** | | | | | | |
| Essential fish habitat | | x | | | x (6) | |
| Marine and pelagic birds | | | | | x | |
| Public health and safety | | | | | (5) | |
| **Coastal and Onshore** | | | | | | |
| Beaches | | | | | x (6) | |
| Wetlands | | | | | x (6) | |
| Shore birds and coastal nesting birds | | | | | x (6) | |
| Coastal wildlife refuges | | | | | x | |
| Wilderness areas | | | | | | |
| **Other Resources Identified** | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

FUGRO

**Footnotes for Environmental Impact Analysis Worksheet**

1. Activities that may affect a marine sanctuary or topographic feature. Specifically, if the well or platform site or any anchors will be on the seafloor within the:
   (a) 4-mile zone of the Flower Garden Banks, or the 3-mile zone of Stetson Bank;
   (b) 1000-m, 1-mile or 3-mile zone of any topographic feature (submarine bank) protected by the Topographic Features Stipulation attached to an OCS lease;
   (c) Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) criteria of 500 ft from any no-activity zone; or
   (d) Proximity of any submarine bank (500 ft buffer zone) with relief greater than 2 meters that is not protected by the Topographic Features Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.
2. Activities with any bottom disturbance within an OCS lease block protected through the Live Bottom (Pinnacle Trend) Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.
3. Activities within any Eastern Gulf OCS block where seafloor habitats are protected by the Live Bottom (Low-relief) Stipulation attached to an OCS lease.
4. Activities on blocks designated by the MMS as being in water depths 400 meters or greater.
5. Exploration or production activities where $H_2S$ concentrations greater than 500 ppm might be encountered.
6. All activities that could result in an accidental spill of produced liquid hydrocarbons or diesel fuel that is determined to impact these environmental resources. If the proposed action is located a sufficient distance from a resource that no impact would occur, the EIA will note that in a sentence or two.
7. All activities that involve seafloor disturbances, including anchor placement, in any OCS block designated by the MMS as having high-probability for the occurrence of shipwrecks or prehistoric sites, including such blocks that will be affected that are adjacent to the lease block in which the planned activity will occur. If the proposed activities are located at sufficient distance from a shipwreck or prehistoric site that no impact would occur, the EIA will note that in a sentence or two.
8. All activities that are determined to possibly have an adverse effect on endangered or threatened marine mammals or sea turtles or their critical habitats.
9. Production activities that involve transportation of produced fluids to shore using shuttle tankers or barges.

FUGRO

## (B) Analysis

### Site-specific at Offshore Location

Designated Topographic Features

There are no anticipated impacts to any marine sanctuaries or topographic features from the site-specific proposed activity in West Cameron Area Block 74. The following Impact Producing Factors (IPFs) would not have any affects on topographic features: Effluents (including muds, cuttings, and other discharges), Emissions (including air, noise, light, etc.), Shore Bound Wastes, and Physical Disturbances to the seafloor. This lack of impacts is primarily due to the fact that the nearest designated topographic feature, specifically 29 Fathom Bank, is located within West Cameron Area Block 570, which is approximately 95 miles away from the proposed activities.

The proposed activities are unlikely to affect the area via surface or subsurface oil spill. No ecological impacts are expected since the water depth would typically not allow any oil to reach the seafloor to impact any organisms found there. The dispersion rate would also be high enough that the oil that may remain in a subsea location due to a subsea leak would be moved away from any banks by natural current flow around that bank. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional Oil Spill Response Plan (OSRP) (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Pinnacle Trend Area Live Bottoms

The nearest block with a pinnacle trend live bottom stipulation occurs approximately 288 miles away in Main Pass Area Block 290. Therefore, Impact Producing Factors (IPFs) from West Cameron Area Block 74 such as Effluents (including muds, cuttings, and other discharges), Emissions (including air, noise, light, etc.), Shore Bound Wastes, and Physical Disturbance to the seafloor are not anticipated to affect these site-specific features.

It is unlikely that any accidental surface or subsurface oil spill from the proposed activities would occur. However, if an accidental spill were to occur no impact to any biota associated with the pinnacle trends area live bottoms found in the Central Gulf of Mexico is expected, as the nearest block that falls within that stipulation is 288 miles away. This distance and the depth of the live bottoms alleviates any impacts due to oiling as most of the subsurface oil would immediately rise up to the surface or higher in the water column, and surface oil would never come into contact with anything at such a depth. The activities

proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Eastern Gulf Live Bottoms

The nearest Eastern Gulf Live Bottom Area is over 288 miles east from the proposed activity in West Cameron Area Block 74. Therefore, no IPFs (Emissions, Effluents, Shore Bound Wastes, Physical Disturbances to the Seafloor, and Accidents) are expected to impact any Eastern Gulf Live Bottom area.

It is unlikely that the any Eastern Gulf Live Bottom Area would be affected via an accidental surface or subsurface oil spill generated by the proposed activities. Due to the tendency of oil to rise in the water column, and the dispersal that would affect a surface or subsurface spill there would be little or no impact to Eastern Gulf Live Bottoms due to the distance from this block. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Chemosynthetic Communities

The proposed activities for West Cameron Area Block 74 will occur in water that is approximately 39 feet deep thereby eliminating any threat to chemosynthetic communities which would normally occur in water depths of at least 400 meters (1,312 feet). Therefore no IPFs (including: effluents, emissions, physical disturbances, accidents, or shore bound wastes) from the proposed activities in West Cameron Area Block 74 would be expected to impact any chemosynthetic community.

Water Quality

As with all offshore activity there is always the probability for impacts to water quality. This usually occurs through accidents or effluent discharge. All discharges for the proposed activity are going to be in accordance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), specifically Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s general permit under GMG 290000 issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Due to the analysis done by EPA no operational discharges are expected to impact water quality within West Cameron Area Block 74.

It is unlikely that due to any of the proposed activities an oil spill would occur in West Cameron Area Block 74. However, if an accidental spill were to occur

water quality would be adversely impacted for a period of time by petroleum products and byproducts. This time frame would be shortened by the natural dispersion and breakdown (organic and microbial decomposition) that would remove the oil from the water, or at the very least would dilute it to levels that would be less hazardous to the environment. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Fisheries

West Cameron Area Block 74 lies within the limits of the brown shrimp harvesting grounds, the principal seabob grounds, the white shrimp harvesting grounds, coastal demersal fish, coastal pelagics, and major finfish harvest area. This block lies outside the fishing limits of the Primary Industrial Bottomfishing area. This area is also south of important blue crab and oyster lease producing areas, which are to the north near the coast (USIDOI, MMS, 1986, Visual No. 2).

Based on the proposed activities it is highly unlikely that an accidental surface or subsurface spill would occur. If a spill were to occur the finfish and shellfish that could be impacted would probably evacuate the area of impact and if any finfish and shellfish did come into contact with any spill residue the affect would most likely not be lethal as the finfish can metabolize the hydrocarbons and avoid increased exposure. The other IPFs that could occur within this area are unlikely to impact any of the above-mentioned fisheries. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Marine Mammals

Endangered or threatened whale species, which may occur in West Cameron Area Block 74, are blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*), finback whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*), humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), sei whale (*Balaenoptera borealis*), and sperm whale (*Physter catdon*) (USDOI, Region IV Endangered Species Notebook).

The blue whale and sei whale have never been common in the Gulf of Mexico and have very few documented historical Gulf sightings. There is a small population of finback whales in the Gulf and Caribbean Sea (Schmidly 1981), with some Gulf sightings of fin whales in the deeper waters of the North-central Gulf (Mullin et al. 1991). The humpback whale is cosmopolitan being found in all oceans of the world; recent sightings in the Gulf of Mexico have been sporadic but included the Central and Eastern Gulf (Schmidly 1981). The sperm whale is the most abundant large whale in the Gulf of Mexico, and has been sighted on most surveys conducted in the deeper waters. It is commonly seen off the

continental shelf edge in the vicinity of the Mississippi River Delta (Mullin et al. 1991 in MMS 1992). Most of these whales, with the exception of the blue and sei whales, may utilize West Cameron Area Block 74 at some time, however these would be very rare occurrences.

The West Indian manatee (*Trichechus manatus*), a federally endangered marine mammal, has historically utilized (seasonally) shallow protected estuarine waters of the northern Gulf of Mexico, including coastal Louisiana, but would not be expected to utilize the open marine waters of West Cameron Area Block 74 (MMS 1992).

Another utilization of this block would come from Cetaceans or more specifically Family Delphinidae, which includes the porpoises and dolphins, and species such as the Spotted dolphin (*Stenella plagiodon*), Common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*), Atlantic Bottle-nosed dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*), and the Short-Finned Pilot Whale (*Globicephala macrorhyncha*) (Lowery, 1974).

There may be adverse impacts by several of the IPFs to marine mammals due to the proposed activities for West Cameron Area Block 74. These include but are not limited to: vessel traffic, noise, accidental oil spills, effluent discharge, and loss of shore bound wastes. The only lethal affects, which would be an extremely rare occurrence, if occurring at all, would be due to oil spills, ingestion of plastic material, or collision with a vessel. Some of the IPFs (noise, effluent discharge, etc.) would affect marine mammals in a non-lethal manner due to stress. When stressed the individuals in a population could become more prone to infection and weaken, this could affect entire pods, however, these would be sporadic events and are unlikely to happen.

Any disturbance could theoretically affect populations of marine mammals but it is highly unlikely that this would occur due to their ability to travel to other areas within their home range. Fatalities are also unlikely and are unexpected barring catastrophic occurrences.

Sea Turtles

The following species are protected and are found within the Gulf Of Mexico: Kemp's ridley turtle (*Lepidochelya kempii*), green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*), leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) and loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) (USDOI, Region IV Endangered Species Notebook).
The green turtle is found throughout the Gulf of Mexico with infrequent nesting occurrences throughout, and nesting aggregations on the Florida and Yucatan coasts. Green turtles prefer depths of less than 20 m (66 ft) where seagrasses are abundant (NRC 1990). Leatherbacks are oceanic turtles but do enter

shallower waters at times. There are rare but reported cases of leatherbacks nesting on the Florida panhandle (MMS 1992). The hawksbill is the least commonly reported marine turtle in the Northern Gulf, with Texas being the only state with regular occurrences. It is more common in tropical Caribbean waters. Kemp's Ridley is the most endangered species of marine turtle and is common in Texas and Mexico. Loggerheads occur worldwide in depths varying from those found in estuaries to the continental shelf. Major Gulf nesting areas for this species include the beaches along the Florida panhandle, South Florida, and Padre Island, Texas. In the Central Gulf loggerheads are known to nest on the beaches and the turtles are commonly observed around platforms. Some of these turtles, particularly the loggerhead, may temporarily utilize West Cameron Area Block 74, however it would be infrequent and no impacts would be expected from the project.

IPFs such as vessel traffic, noise, shore bound waste losses, effluents, and accidental oil spills could possibly impact through stress or even kill small numbers of turtles. Oil spills and response activities have the potential to harm individuals through consumption of oil particles or oiled food sources. The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 has response planning techniques and protections in place to alleviate most of these issues.

The majority of impacts are not expected to be lethal, however the impacts that are expected through nonlethal IPFs could cause declines in survival and reproductive rates, which would have detrimental affects on the population as a whole, yet as stated above mitigative steps are already in place via the Oil Pollution Act of 1990.

Air Quality

No IPFs should impact the Air Quality within the immediate vicinity of the work proposed within West Cameron Area Block 74. Emissions will be kept within accepted standards and Effluents, Physical Disturbances to the seafloor, and Shore Bound Wastes are not expected to decrease the air quality. In the unlikely event that an accidental oil spill would occur there might be some Air Quality impacts however these would be kept to a minimum.

Shipwreck sites and Prehistoric Archeological sites

West Cameron Area Block 74 has been determined by the Minerals Management Service to have a high potential for containing historic shipwreck sites. As specified by NTL 98-20 and NTL No. 2002-G01, an Archaeological Resource Report for West Cameron Area Block 74 has been submitted with Chevron, U.S.A. Inc.'s Initial Exploration Plan for OCS-G-22504. Any proposed activities would not be expected to impact any archeological features. It is highly

unlikely that any of the IPFs would cause any impacts. Effluents, Emissions, Shore Bound Wastes, and Accidents would not be expected to impact any archeological sites if they were present.

## Vicinity of Offshore Location

Essential Fish Habitat

West Cameron Area Block 74 lies within the limits of the brown shrimp harvesting grounds, the principal seabob grounds, the white shrimp harvesting grounds, coastal demersal fish, coastal pelagics, and major finfish harvest area. This block lies outside the fishing limits of the Primary Industrial Bottomfishing area. This area is also south of important blue crab and oyster lease producing areas, which are to the north near the coast (USIDOI, MMS, 1986, Visual No. 2).

All marine waters and substrates of the Gulf of Mexico from the shoreline to the seaward limit of the Exclusive Economic Zone are considered essential habitat for fish managed by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (GMFMC). Under this definition the marine waters surrounding West Cameron Area Block 74 is included as EFH for species managed by the United States Department of Commerce, National Marine Fisheries Service through the GMFMC. The fisheries affected by the EFH designation are the fisheries for shrimp, red drum, coastal migratory pelagics, reef fish, and stone crab. However, the proposed activities in West Cameron Area Block 74 should not cause significant or long-term adverse impacts to Essential Fish Habitat. (GMFMC, 1998)

Based on the proposed activities it is highly unlikely that an accidental surface or subsurface spill would occur. If a spill were to occur the finfish and shellfish that could be impacted would probably evacuate the area of impact and if any finfish and shellfish did come into contact with any spill residue the affect would most likely not be lethal as the finfish can metabolize the hydrocarbons and avoid increased exposure. The other IPFs that could occur within this area are unlikely to impact any of the above-mentioned fisheries. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Marine and Pelagic Birds

Many of the IPFs would have no impact upon Marine and Pelagic Bird species. Effluents, Emissions, Physical Disturbances to the Seafloor, and Shore Bound Wastes would not affect any avian species that would occur within West Cameron Area Block 74. Accidental oil spills have the ability to impact individual birds, mainly due to the oiling of the individual's feathers and well as possible

ingestion of the oil product. It is unlikely that a spill would occur from the proposed activities and if one did occur the activities proposed in this initial exploration plan document will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Public Health and Safety

There are no IPFs (including Emissions, Effluents, Physical disturbances to the seafloor, Shore Bound Wastes, or Accidents) that would cause any harm to public health and safety. Chevron U.S.A., Inc. would like the Minerals Management Service to determine the $H_2S$ classification in accordance with 30 CFR 250.417 (c).

**Coastal and Onshore**

Beaches

With the exception of an accidental oil spill no IPFs (including Emissions, Effluents, Physical disturbances to the seafloor, and Shore Bound Wastes) are expected to impact any of the beaches in onshore locations. An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities would have a 25/41/47 percent chance (based on 3, 10, or 30 days from spill) of causing impacts to the beaches that occur on shore, in Cameron Parish, Louisiana approximately 10 miles from West Cameron Area Block 74. This distance along with the response capabilities implemented would greatly decrease the probability that an oil spill would have a large impact to these areas. Upon reviewing the OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052 publication the historical spill data and trajectory / risk calculations show that there would be a risk of impact to the coastline or other shoreline environmental resources of Louisiana and Texas. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Wetlands

With the exception of an accidental oil spill no IPFs (including Emissions, Effluents, Physical disturbances to the seafloor, and Shore Bound Wastes) are expected to impact any of the wetlands in onshore locations. An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities would have a 25/41/47 percent chance (based on 3, 10, or 30 days from spill) of causing impacts to the wetlands that occur at the shore, in Cameron Parish, Louisiana approximately 10 miles from West Cameron Area Block 74. This distance along with the response capabilities implemented would greatly decrease the probability that an oil spill would have a large impact to these areas. Upon reviewing the OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052

publication the historical spill data and trajectory / risk calculations show that there would be a small risk of impact to the coastline or other shoreline environmental resources of Louisiana and Texas. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Shore Birds and Coastal Nesting Birds

With the exception of an accidental oil spill no IPFs (including Emissions, Effluents, Physical disturbances to the seafloor, and Shore Bound Wastes) are expected to impact any of the shore birds and coastal nesting birds in onshore locations. An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities would have a 25/41/47 percent chance (based on 3, 10, or 30 days from spill) of causing impacts to the shore birds and coastal nesting birds that occur on shore, in Cameron Parish, Louisiana approximately 10 miles from West Cameron Area Block 74. This distance along with the response capabilities implemented would greatly decrease the probability that an oil spill would have a large impact to these areas. Upon reviewing the OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052 publication the historical spill data and trajectory / risk calculations show that there would be a small risk of impact to the coastline or other shoreline environmental resources of Louisiana and Texas. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Coastal Wildlife Refuges

With the exception of an accidental oil spill no IPFs (including Emissions, Effluents, Physical disturbances to the seafloor, and Shore Bound Wastes) are expected to impact any of Coastal Wildlife Refuges in onshore locations. An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities would have a 25/41/47 percent chance (based on 3, 10, or 30 days from spill) of causing impacts to the Coastal Wildlife Refuges that occur on shore, in Cameron Parish, Louisiana approximately 10 miles from West Cameron Area Block 74, specifically Rockefeller Wildlife Management Area and Game Preserve. The distance along with the response capabilities implemented would greatly decrease the probability that an oil spill would have a large impact to these areas. Upon reviewing the OCS EIS/EA MMS 2002-052 publication the historical spill data and trajectory / risk calculations show that there would be a small risk of impact to the coastline or other shoreline environmental resources of Louisiana and Texas. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

Wilderness Areas

There are no IPFs (including Emissions, Effluents, Physical disturbances to the seafloor, and Shore Bound Wastes) that are expected to have any impact to any of the onshore Wilderness Areas. An accidental oil spill from the proposed activities should not cause impacts to any coastal Wilderness Areas. Louisiana has three areas designated by congress as Wilderness Areas, namely Breton Wilderness, Kisatchie Hills Wilderness, and Lacassine Wilderness. The only wilderness area located along the coastal region of Louisiana is the Breton Wilderness. Breton Wilderness is located on the eastern side of the Mississippi River over 200 miles from West Cameron Area Block 74, therefore no impacts from the proposed activities are expected to impact Breton Wilderness. The activities proposed in this plan will be covered by Chevron U.S.A., Inc.'s regional OSRP (refer to Section F which contains information submitted in accordance with NTL 2002-G08).

**Other Environmental Resources Identified**

It is expected that the proposed activities in West Cameron Area Block 74 will have no other environmental resources identified or impacted.

**(C) Impacts on West Cameron Area Block 74**

It is expected that the activities proposed for West Cameron Area Block 74 will have no impacts on site-specific environmental conditions. The conditions of the site have been analyzed in order to make this judgment.

**(D) Alternatives**

Due to the lack of Environmental Impacts no alternative was considered for the proposed activities in West Cameron Area Block 74.

**(E) Mitigation measures**

With the exception of measures required by regulation no mitigative steps will be taken to avoid, diminish, or eliminate potential impacts to environmental resources.

## (F) Consultation

John Chance Land Surveys, Inc. / FUGRO Ecological Scientists were consulted regarding potential for impacts to environmental resources due to the proposed activities.

## (G) References

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# ATTACHMENT I-1

# Coastal Zone Consistency

# COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY CERTIFICATION

**Initial Exploration Plan**

**West Cameron Block 74**

**OCS-G-22504**

**Wells "A" & "B"**

The proposed activities described in detail in this Plan comply with Louisiana's approved Coastal Management Program and will be conducted in a manner consistent with such Program.

**CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.**

Linda F. Granger

**Linda F. Granger**
**Permit Specialist**

**June 29, 2004**

Public Notice of Federal Consistency review of a Proposed Initial Exploration Plan (EP) by the Coastal Management Division/Louisiana Department of Natural Resources for the Plan's Consistency with the Louisiana Coastal Resources Program.

Applicant: Chevron U.S.A. Inc.
P. O. Box 69100
Lafayette, LA 70596-9100

Location: West Cameron Block 74
OCS-G-22504

Description: Proposed Initial Exploration Plan for the above area provides for the exploration for oil and gas. Exploration activities shall include drilling from a jack-up rig and transport of drilling crews and equipment by helicopter and/or cargo vessel from an onshore base located at Intracoastal City, La. No ecologically sensitive species or habitats are expected to be located near or affected by these activities.

A copy of the Plan described above is available for inspection at the Coastal Management Division Office located on the 10th floor of the State Land and Natural Resources Building., 625 North 4th Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The public is requested to submit comments to the Coastal Management Division, Attention: OCS Plans, P. O. Box 44487, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-4487. Comments must be received within 15 days of the date of this notice or 15 days after the Coastal Management Division obtains a copy of the Plan and it is available for public inspection. This public notice is provided to meet the requirements of the NOAA Regulations on Federal Consistency with approved Coastal Management Programs.